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INFO RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC
RUEANHA/FAA NATIONAL HQ WASHDC
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES
RUEHFT/AMCONSUL FRANKFURT 7560
RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0056

UNCLAS VIENNA 000121

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB/TRA AND EUR/AGS/VVIKMANIS-KELLER
PARIS FOR FAA/LLIU
FRANKFURT FOR TSA/ABROWN

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAIR](#) [AU](#)
SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN AIRLINES WILL BEGIN REGULAR FLIGHTS TO
IRAQ IN MARCH

REF: 05 VIENNA 3493

¶1. On January 9, the Austrian Airlines group (AUA) announced plans to start regularly scheduled service to Iraq on March 9. AUA plans two weekly flights (Thursdays and Sundays) from Vienna to Erbil. Starting May 2, AUA will add a third weekly flight (Tuesdays). AUA will use Airbus A319 aircraft.

¶2. Iraqi authorities granted AUA air traffic rights to service Iraq in October 2005 (reftel). AUA was the first Western carrier to receive permission to initiate regularly scheduled flights to Iraq. The agreement authorizes AUA to service any destination in Iraq with a frequency of up to one daily flight. AUA claims there is strong demand for flights to Iraq.

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